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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Shicai Liu

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6728

23531 7590 12/17/2008  
SUITER SWANTZ PC LLO  
14301 FNB PARKWAY  
SUITE 220  
OMAHA, NE 68154

EXAMINER

BADR, HAMID R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1794

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/17/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

***Advisory Action***

The after final amendment filed on 12/08/2008 is acknowledged.

Applicants' amendment filed 12/8/08 has been fully considered but the amendment has not been entered given that it raises new issues that would require further consideration and search. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the pretreatment comprises "defatting via a plane" which is a new limitation that has not been previously considered.

The amendment has also not been entered given that the amendment raises new issues that would require further consideration under 112, first paragraph given that while there is support to recite dry molding process wherein molding is by knitting by hand, there does not appear to be any support to recite wet molding process wherein molding is by hand.

It is noted, however, that if the amendment were entered, the 35 USC 112, first and second paragraph rejections of record set forth in the office action mailed 10/3/08 would be overcome.

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Although the amendment is not being entered, the Examiner would like to note the following.

A. Applicants state the word "intenerating" means "tenderizing" or "softening".

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a. Please refer to the pending office action ( 112 Rejection, paragraph 6) to confirm that the Examiner has interpreted the word in the same way as the applicants have.

B. Applicants argue that the defatting of animal hide when done "via a plane" will eliminate the chemical routes of defatting which will help alleviate the environmental impact of chemical defatting.

a. The Examiner agrees that mechanical defatting will help alleviate the environmental impact of chemical defatting. However, it is noted that eliminating the environmental impact of chemical defatting is not a requirement in the presently claimed invention. Furthermore, the chemical degreasing process as presently claimed in claim 8, is confusing regarding the alleged environmental impact of the chemical process.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HAMID R. BADR whose telephone number is (571)270-3455. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 5:30 to 4:30 (Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Callie Shosho can be reached on (571) 272-1123. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Hamid R Badr  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1794

/Callie E. Shosho/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1794